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his hypothesis of separate nerve endings, will be interesting. The plain distinction between disagreeableness and pain is, as usual, also not noted.

ARTHUR ALLIN.

Suggestion und Reflex. Eine kritisch-experimentelle Studie über die Reflexphänomene des Hypnotismus. K. SCHAEFFER. Jena, Gustav Fischer, 1895, pp. 113.

We have here a flag of truce appearing in the combat between the opposing forces of the school of Nancy and that of the Salpêtrière. The mediator is a third person, who proclaims that both are right, and that suggestion on the psychical side as well as the reflex phenomena on the somatic side are only two aspects of one single process, or perhaps better still, are two parallel processes associated. Association of ideas, and the movements accompanying usually the ideas, are the parallel processes. "Suggestion is nothing else but an immediate association" (p. 112). Bernheim's words are approved: "The mechanism of suggestion can be thus generally formulated: *Increase of the ideomotor, ideosensitive and ideosensorial reflex excitability.*" As strychnine increases the sensitive-motor excitability in the spinal cord, so that the lightest stimulus on a nerve ending transforms itself immediately into contraction, without the possibility of any inhibitory influence of the brain, so hypnotism is the increase of the ideoreflex excitability of the brain, each presentation as it appears is immediately followed by its associated movement (p. 112). "Suggestion is then to be considered as a psychical, anatomically considered, cortical reflex" (p. 113).

Since suggestibility is a cardinal symptom of hysteria, it is not to be wondered at that senso- and neuro-muscular hyperexcitability is called an "hysterical" phenomenon. The highly pronounced suggestibility is conditioned by a very considerable sinking or diminution of central inhibition. The hypnotic reflex phenomena are not always "hysterical;" association and absence of central inhibition, wherever they occur, are the chief and distinctive features. Hence the hard and fast distinction between the phenomena of *suggestion* and *reflex* falls away.

The experiments are well performed, and the whole work is essentially a worthy contribution to the subject. Suggestion has even a wider application than in the abnormal field. A robber, for example, is seen on the lonely highway at night; upon closer examination it is seen to be the stump of a tree. We have here the phenomena and actions of suggestion. So with all sense-illusions. Even conversation is a continual suggestion, illustrating continually the action of the association of ideas and cortical reflexes. Suggestion is *not* a disturbance of association as Parish (*Trugwahrnehmung*) and many others assert. It is a continual illustration of most excellent association. Only by these means do we have the resulting phenomena. "The disturbed association" is in the external world, in the environment. The cortical mechanism works as it has been taught to work; it is not its fault if the environment changes.

ARTHUR ALLIN.